

# Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held Wednesday 29 June 2022 at 6:30 PM

Those present :

Mayor : Cllr Jo Burns

Councillors : Cllr C Carlsen, Cllr P Darlington, Cllr S Doherty, Cllr R Ferguson, Cllr Y Sayers, Cllr J Sayers

In attendance : Mr J Spicer, Miss L Williams

Officers : P Dillon, D Healey, S Lawrence, A Mc Intyre

## 1 Apologies For Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr A Carr, Cllr T Hughes, Cllr J Desmond, Cllr K Hughes, Cllr A Lloyd, Cllr F Sharp, Cllr P Mc Kinley, Cllr B Nixon and Cllr June Burns.

## 2 Declarations of Interest

None Received.

## 3 Public Participation.

None.

## 4 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 18th May 2022 were approved as a correct record.

## 5 Grant Application - Maghull In Bloom

Jon Spicer - Chair of Maghull in Bloom and Secretary Linda Williams attended the meeting to present their grant application for the forthcoming year. A brief update on Maghull in Bloom was provided. All Members thanked Maghull in Bloom for their amazing work around the Town.

**RESOLVED** that the grant application for Maghull in Bloom for £2,000 be agreed.

John Spicer and Linda Williams Left the meeting.

## 6 AGAR - Annual Return to External Auditor

The Town Clerk read out the following questions to Elected Members of the Council as detailed in Section 1 of the Annual Return:-

1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

J.A. 

3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audits. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'yes' to this question and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed their agreement.**

9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council has answered 'not applicable' to this question as the Council do not have any Trust Funds, and asked if elected members agreed. **Members confirmed agreement.**

**RESOLVED that:**

- 1. Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 be approved and signed by the Town Clerk and Mayor;**
- 2. Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021/22 be approved and signed by the Finance Officer and Mayor;**
- 3. That the publication dates of the accounts be noted;**
- 4. That the Annual Governance Statement be submitted to PKF Littlejohn;**
- 5. The report be noted.**

Cllr Peter Darlington joined the meeting.



The Town Clerk informed members that Sefton's New Housing Strategy - consultation documents was sent to our planning consultants, who informed Council that, in their opinion, there was insufficient detail in the documentation. However, responding to Sefton would ensure MTC would be a participate in the process and be therefore included in further consultations. Members also queried whether Sefton were selling houses via their commercial company on a leasehold or freehold basis.

**RESOLVED that the Town Clerk respond to the Strategy consultation on the basis of insufficient detail and also query if the houses would be sold freehold or leasehold.**

**8 Political Balance Report**

The Town Clerk informed Council that it needed to agree the political balance of the Council and agree the composition of its attendant committees.

**RESOLVED that:-**

- 1. The composition of the political groups, The Labour Group - 7 Members and The Independent Group - 9 Members be noted;**
- 2. The options for the Committees as determined and constituted with the Terms of Reference and delegated powers as detailed in the Constitution be agreed;**
- 3. The number of seats on the various Committees for the 2022-23 Municipal Year be agreed;**
- 4. Council confirmed the allocation of seats to the political groups and made appointments to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;**
- 5. The report be noted.**

**9 Appointment of Committees, Membership and Substitution Arrangements for the Municipal Year 2022/23**

**It was RESOLVED that:-**

**Membership of committees would be as follows:**

- Finance & General Purposes:-** Members Cllr Josh Burns (Mayor), Cllr A Carr, Cllr C Carlsen, Cllr J Desmond, Cllr S Doherty, Cllr T Hughes, Cllr P McKinley, Cllr T Hughes, Cllr J Sayers and Cllr K Hughes.
- Community Services:-** Members Cllr Josh Burns (Mayor), Cllr June Burns, Cllr A Carr, Cllr P Darlington, Cllr S Doherty, Cllr R Ferguson, Cllr B Nixon, Cllr P McKinley, Cllr Y Sayers and Cllr F Sharp.
- Amenities:-** Members Cllr Josh Burns (Mayor), Cllr June Burns, Cllr C Carlsen, Cllr P Darlington, Cllr R Ferguson, Cllr K Hughes, Cllr T Hughes, Cllr A Lloyd, Cllr B Nixon and Cllr J Sayers.

**Chairs & Vice Chairs to be decided at the next meetings.**

**10 Appointment of Representatives on External Bodies**

**It was RESOLVED that Maghull Town Council's Representatives on external organisations be appointed as follows:**

- Sefton Rights of Way Liaison Group – Cllr R Ferguson**



- **Maghull in Bloom** – Cllr Josh Burns
- **Maghull Parish Hall** – Cllr S Doherty
- **Sefton Council Standards Sub Committee** – Cllr J Desmond
- **MALC** - Cllr J Sayers & Cllr J Desmond

**11 Activity Room Improvements**

The Town Clerk informed members a project manager has been appointed. The proposed floor plan had a slight amendment regarding the break out area for the Grounds Maintenance Team. Members were happy with the update and the progress made with the project.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**17 Community Wealth Building - Maghull Hub**

The Town Clerk informed Members that this project be considered which would assist residents with accessing information and advice regarding the benefits and assistance available given the Cost-of-Living crisis. The offices in the Square had now become available for rent. This meant that the project could now be revisited. As the landowners, Evolve Estates seemed keen to participate in this project and had sent through Heads of Terms for the rental of the property in the Square. This would need to be agreed with Council before any further discussions would take place.

**RESOLVED:-**

1. That the Council move forward with the Maghull Hub project;
2. That the Council consider/negotiate a lease agreement with LCP for the office building in the Square;
3. The report be noted.

**13 Planning Applications.**

The Town Clerk informed members of the difficulties Maghull are facing with the Poverty Lane site (LEM). Cllr P McKinley has already had 3 stop works notices issued. Cllrs raised concerns HGV's ere not following the regulations agreed. Cllr J Sayers proposed Town Clerk to write to Chief Executive of Sefton MB (Dwayne Johnson) to ask for a Traffic Regulation Order and to upload the letter to MTC website for transparency to the public.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. All Agreed Town Clerk to write to Chief Executive of Sefton MBC (Dwayne Johnson) to ask for a Traffic Regulation Order for LEM site;
2. The report be noted.

**14 Municipal Calendar**

**RESOLVED that members all agreed the amendments made for the Municipal Calendar for 2022-23.**

**15 Report on Sefton Borough Council Matters**

Cllr J Sayers provided an update on the DC/2020/00418 - Site of British Legion planning applications and informed of the predicted road closures when works



commence.

**16 Chairman's Closing Comments**

Chair thanked all the members for attending the meeting.

J.A.S.   
17/8/22

CHAIR

